GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:599
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
ENCROACHMENT OF DEFENCE LAND
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illegal encroachments have taken 9000 acres of the defence land in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with area of land, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to take back the encroached land from the occupants;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to dispose off any surplus land out of the 17,00,000 acres of defence land spread over 82 cantonments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): Approximately, an area of 10617 acres of Defence land is under encroachment. Exact details of the encroachment, State-wise, are being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Directions have been issued to Director General Defence Estates and Service Hqrs to take action for removal of encroachments under the provisions of Cantonment Act, 1924 and Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.Some of the encroachments are under litigation and hence their removal is subject to Court orders.

(d) No, Sir. The extant Defence land Policy does not provide for declaring any defence land as surplus.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to (d) above.